CATHOLIC · ACTION ·

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N.C.W.C.: EXPRESSION OF OUR UNIFIED FAITH

BY CLARENCE J. McCABE

SPURIOUS EQUALITY
N.C.W.C. MOURNS STAFF MEMBERS
SPECIFIC JOBS TO DO
CONQUERING A WORLD AT HOME
FUN WITH A FUTURE
WAR'S CHILDREN AND THEIR WOE

Our Common Catholic Interests:

The United Nations Charter: A New Opportunity

A NATIONAL MONTHLY PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

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FACTS ABOUT THE
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"Over a manifold activity of the laity, carried on in various localities according to the needs of the times, is placed the National Catholic Welfare Conference, an organization which supplies a ready and well-adapted instrument for your episcopal ministry."—Pope Pius XII.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was organized in September, 1919.

The N. C. W. C. is a common agency acting under the authority of the bishops to promote the welfare of the Catholics of the country.

It has for its incorporated purposes "unifying, coordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities."

It comprises the following departments and bureaus:

EXECUTIVE—Bureaus maintained: *Immigration, National Center Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Information, Publications, Business and Auditing, and* CATHOLIC ACTION, *monthly publication,* N. C. W. C.

YOUTH—Facilitates exchange of information regarding the philosophy, organization, and program-content of Catholic youth organizations; promotes the National Catholic Youth Council, the federating agency for all existing, approved Catholic youth groups; contacts and evaluates national governmental and non-governmental youth organizations and youth servicing organizations.

EDUCATION—Divisions: *Statistics and Information, Teacher Placement, Research Catholic Education, Library Service, and Inter-American Collaboration.*

PRESS—Serves the Catholic press in the United States and abroad with regular *news, features, editorial and pictorial services.*

SOCIAL ACTION—Covers the fields of *Industrial Relations, International Affairs, Civic Education, Social Welfare, Family Life, and Rural Life.*

LEGAL—Serves as a clearing house of information on federal, state and local legislation.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS—Includes the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, which maintain at N. C. W. C. headquarters permanent representations in the interests of the Catholic laity. These councils function through some 7,000 affiliated societies—national, state, diocesan, district, local and parish; also through units of the councils in many of the dioceses.

The N. C. C. M. maintains at its national headquarters a *Catholic Evidence Bureau,* sponsors two weekly nationwide radio programs—the Catholic Hour over the National Broadcasting Company's Network, and the Hour of Faith over the American Broadcasting Company's Network—and conducts a Catholic Radio Bureau.

The N. C. C. W. maintains in Washington, D. C., the *National Catholic School of Social Service.*

CATHOLIC ACTION STUDY—Devoted to research and reports as to pronouncements, methods, programs and achievements in the work of Catholic Action at home and abroad.

The Conference is conducted by an administrative board composed of ten archbishops and bishops aided by seven assistant bishops.

Each department of the N. C. W. C. is administered by an episcopal chairman.

Through the general secretary, chief executive officer of the Conference, the reports of the departments and information on the general work of the headquarters' staff are sent regularly to the members of the administrative board.

The administrative bishops of the Conference report annually upon their work to the Holy See.

Annually at the general meeting of the bishops, detailed reports are submitted by the administrative bishops of the Conference and authorization secured for the work of the coming year.

No official action is taken by any N. C. W. C. department without authorization of its episcopal chairman.

No official action is taken in the name of the whole Conference without authorization and approval of the administrative board.

It is not the policy of the N. C. W. C. to create new organizations.

It helps, unifies, and leaves to their own fields those that already exist.

It aims to defend and advance the welfare both of the Catholic Church and of our beloved Country.

It seeks to inform the life of America of right fundamental principles of religion and morality.

It is a central clearing house of information regarding activities of Catholic men and women.

All that are helped may play their part in promoting the good work and in maintaining the common agency, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

CATHOLIC ACTION records monthly the work of the Conference and its affiliated organizations. It presents our common needs and opportunities. Its special articles are helpful to every Catholic Organization and individual.

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CATHOLIC ACTION

"CATHOLIC ACTION consists not merely of the pursuits of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops."

—Pope Pius XI.

Monthly Publication of the

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

VOL. XXVII, No. 8 AUGUST, 1945

OUR COMMON CATHOLIC INTERESTS

The United Nations Charter: A New Opportunity

WITH the Senate ratification of the United Nations Charter on July 28 following similar rapid action on the renewal of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements, on approval of the Bretton Woods Banking and Monetary Agreements and membership in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the United States has definitely committed itself to full participation and responsibility in the society of nations for the maintenance and promotion of peace and international welfare.

The United Nations Charter will be the principal medium through which the responsibility will be exercised—a sort of master key of international cooperation—and, as such, the necessity of a proper attitude by Catholics toward, and their efforts for, the future implementation and improvement of the Charter can hardly be overemphasized.

In brief, the United Nations will be an international organization in which membership is open to the 50 San Francisco signatories and "to all other peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgment of the organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations." The principal organs will be a General Assembly—a sort of international forum—consisting of all nations; a Security Council—a select body with power to enforce peace—consisting of the "Big Five" permanent members and six elected members; an Economic and Social Council, consisting of 18 elected members; an International Court of Justice; a Trusteeship Council for the welfare of certain categories of dependent territories; and a Secretariat. The stated purposes include the maintenance of international peace and security, collective measures for the prevention and suppression of acts of aggression, the development of friendly relations among nations, and international cooperation "in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights, and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

"Allowing for certain undeniable defects, the San Francisco Charter remains the only promise the world has that international anarchy will not be permitted to return," the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, told a congregation attending the observance of the Fourth Slav Church Unity Day in Holy Name Cathedral July 13.

"The people of the United States," the Archbishop said, "must assume responsibility in international affairs and repudiate the traditions of

political and economic isolationism. America must participate in an international organization.

"We assumed a great responsibility when we went into the war. We have broken with our past tradition of isolationism and we have done so rightly. We are the most powerful nation in the world, but by that very fact we have much to give the world and an obligation to do so."

The Archbishop pointed out that, while there are imperfections in the San Francisco Charter, "much of what the Conference accomplished was undeniably good and the deficiencies in the Charter's framework can be eliminated so that the rights of all nations regardless of size or race, can be respected."

That the San Francisco Charter, imperfect as it still may be, is a great improvement over the Dumbarton Oaks Proposal is unanimously agreed upon and may be undoubtedly attributed to the expression of rightly informed public opinion in the United States, partly through "consultants" representing national organizations at San Francisco, as well as by action of other nations.

The American Bishops, detailing principles set forth by Pope Pius XII, had issued pointed statements on the requisites of world organization, the most notable of which were: "On International Order" (Nov. 16, 1944) and "On Organizing World Peace" (April 25, 1945). These statements, printed together as a leaflet, "The Bishops Speak Out on World Peace," were widely circulated and distributed among the delegates and their advisers at San Francisco. These, reports of the Catholic Association for International Peace, and "The Pattern for Peace" and "Goals for San Francisco" (common principles drawn from official statements of Catholics, Protestants and Jews) undeniably had a great effect on the Charter which emerged from San Francisco.

According to an appraisal made recently in the *N.C.W.C. News Service* by Rev. E. A. Conway, S.J., of the N.C.W.C., Social Action Department, definite improvements along the line advocated by the Bishops were made in the Charter in the following fields: (1) Approach toward more universal membership; (2) Toward development and codification of international law; (3) Increase of Assembly powers; (4) Way open for peaceful change; (5) Greater stress on economic and social cooperation; (6) Establishment of a trusteeship system; (7) Recognition and protection of human rights; and (9) The World Court.

However the veto power retained by the "Big Five" nations under the Charter on all important actions can call only for continued effort for its modification and repeal so that the preferential status now accorded these nations will not be frozen. Further fields for future effort to improve the Charter are detailed considerably in the report of the Catholic Association for International Peace, Post War World Committee, on "The United Nations Charter" reviewed on page 13 of this issue.

The point we wish to make here is that vast opportunities for the actual operation of international justice and charity have been opened by this agreement of nations to work together in however restricted a fashion, and that Catholics should be preparing their minds and hearts to share fittingly in this work. As the above mentioned report of the C.A.I.P. declared: "The history of war and peace, of justice and injustice, of charity and hate, goes back to the nature of man and his fall. Men were made to help one another and the various parts of the earth were made to supplement one another. Therefore individuals must help one another and the peoples of the earth must do so; otherwise there is injustice and war. Christ brought new strength that men might live up to this fundamental law of their nature. The great and the necessary work therefore is to establish His rulership over the world. The United Nations can be a good beginning for international justice and charity. May God help us all to make the beginning grow in the spirit of Christ."

In addition to the report mentioned above a variety of literature has recently been issued to help in the understanding of the Charter and of America's new role in world affairs: From official government sources, the U. S. State Department has released three basic documents: "Charter of the United Nations" together with the "Statute of the International Court of Justice"; "The United Nations Charter as Declaration and as Constitution, A Letter to the President from Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Chairman of the United States Delegation to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco" and "Report to the President on the Results of the San Francisco Conference by the Chairman of the United States Delegation, the Secretary of State." "The San Francisco Conference: Goals and Achievements" by Rev. E. A. Conway, S.J., Richard Fogley and Rabbi Aaron Opher, compares the achievements of the Charter with moral principles enunciated by official Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish sources and "The San Francisco Conference and Congress," a round table discussion published by the Institute of Social Order, St. Louis, Mo., throws light on U. S. constitutional relations to the Charter.—*Catherine Schaefer.*

CONQUERING A WORLD AT HOME

IN THE early years of the Church "Christianity was spread along the trade routes of the world by soldiers and merchants," notes the Lortz-Kaiser *History of the Church.* One can imagine the spread of Christian truth from tradesmen to artisans, from clerks to farmers, from housewives to their families, and from students to their friends and associates. Speaking of the laity of that time, St. Peter said they were "as living stones built up, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood." (*I Peter* 2:5.) Today, to rebuild this shattered and paganized world for Christ the laymen in their own environment must show themselves "living stones."

During recent decades, the Popes have repeatedly called for an intensification of the efforts of lay organizations—for "a participation of the laity in the apostolate of the hierarchy." By establishing the Lay Organizations and Youth Departments in the N.C.W.C., the Bishops of the United States have made possible a practical way for lay groups to join in their work to bring all things to Christ. At present more than 7,000 organizations are taking advantage of this opportunity through active affiliation with these departments. Their combined strength represents a majority of the organized membership of Catholic lay societies across the land.

It is primarily to help these organizations and numerous college and high school subscribers to the Catholic Student Program Service in this great aim that CATHOLIC ACTION presents each year a series of articles covering many phases of our common life, prepared by the N.C.W.C. Study Club Committee representing the various N.C.W.C. departments. The series presents not only the doctrine at the core of the problem, but information on the latest developments and program suggestions.

Each year's series, which consists of eight articles, is designed as minimum material to inform lay organization leaders of Catholic teaching in the fields of common social and religious interest, and to suggest opportunities and means by which these Catholic societies may spread this teaching and put it into effect for the betterment not only of the community, but through united effort, of the country itself. The articles are offered as program aids, as texts for discussion clubs, as material for forums, round-tables, talks, radio addresses, or in other ways adapted to particular groups. Each article will be introduced by an illustration of an outstanding accomplishment in the field discussed.

SCHEDULED TOPICS

The first article will appear in the September issue and is recommended for use in October. This is at the request of parish and school organizations that desire to plan in advance their use of the material. The list of topics month by month is as follows:

1. September: *The Method: Catholic Action.* Catholic Action, its meaning and purpose, and the need of today. Recommendations based on experience of the Departments of Catholic Action Study and Lay Organizations.

2. October: *The School: Training Ground.* Principles of education. Progressivism and the Catholic School. Ways in which individuals and groups may cooperate in bettering education for the Catholic child.

3. November: *The Confraternity Helps the Parish.* The status today of religious education. The Catholic program. Need for the Confraternity. A suggested program of action.

4. December: *Youth in the Parish.* A consideration of problems in and need for youth work. Kinds of organizations in action. Recommendations of what parish societies can do to help.

5. January: *Words at Work.* The lay apostolate and the press, the air waves, and street speaking. Suggestions for use of these media.

6. February: *The Goal of World Peace.* Unfinished problems of the peace. How Catholic organizations can act effectively in this important field.

7. March: *"Living Stones": The Lay Apostolate.* The desirability of Catholic organizations informing their membership of the role of the laity in the work of the Church. Ways in which they can assist the pastor and cooperate in Catholic Action in the parish.

8. April: *A Just Social Order.* Why the Church is concerned about the social order. What local societies can do in their own community.—*Henry P. Lefebure.*

N.C.W.C.: EXPRESSION OF OUR UNIFIED FAITH

By Clarence J. McCabe

THE ornamental stone facade of the headquarters building of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, on famed Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, D. C., unfailingly attracts the eye of casual passers-by and elicits many queries from visitors in the nation's capital. They want to know what organization is housed in this imposing and unusual structure, the solid stone front of which extends up eight stories. The imposing facade has a central niche throughout its length, at the base of which stands a large stone pedestal with the inscription: "I am the Light of the World."

Through the glass doors on each side of the facade and the central pedestal, which juts up from a trimly-kept green hedge, the curious glance of the passer-by is rewarded by a glimpse of a rich gold and silver mural painting adorning the walls and ceiling of the foyer. The unique character of this headquarters building of the N.C.W.C. prompts not a few visitors, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, to enter and inquire in the hope of learning something about the nature and work of the organization housed within.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was founded nearly twenty-six years ago as an outgrowth of the National Catholic War Council, which coordinated the welfare activities of the Church during the first world war. It began its work in a mellow old red brick structure that had served for many years as a Catholic academy for girls—the Holy Cross Academy—on the site of the present structure.

The new eight-story headquarters building, erected several years ago as the activities of the Conference outgrew the former premises, is a modern office building whose ornamental white stone facade has been constructed to serve as a background for a large statue of Christ the Light of the World. The mural painting within the foyer depicts Christ the King, and early heroes of the Church in the Americas.

The Conference was founded by the Bishops of the United States to promote Christian life in the nation and to further the cause of Christ and His Church throughout the world. Its object has been to unify, coordinate and organize the Catholic people of the nation in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid, citizenship and other activities. The Conference is administered by a board composed of ten Archbishops and Bishops, aided by Assistant Bishops, elected each year at the annual meeting of the American Hierarchy.

Since its founding, the work of the Conference has received repeated Papal commendations and has profoundly influenced the life of the Church throughout the nation. In many countries abroad, also, its influence has been felt. Representatives of the Church have come from afar to study its organization and working, with a view to unifying Catholic activities in their respective countries. Today, in the midst of a world at war, the Conference is carrying on a world-wide mission of charity on behalf of impoverished and destitute victims of the war, war prisoners, and merchant seamen.

In his Encyclical on "The Church in the United States," His Holiness Pope Pius XII speaks as follows to the Bishops of the United States:

"Over a manifold activity of the laity, carried on in various localities according to the needs of the times, is placed the National Catholic Welfare Conference, an organization which supplies a ready and well-adapted instrument for your Episcopal authority. The more important of these institutions We were able to view briefly during the month of October 1936 when We journeyed across the ocean and had the joy of knowing personally you and the field of your activities. The memory of what We then admired with Our own eyes will always remain indelible and a source of joy in Our Heart."

Originally the N.C.W.C. consisted of six departments: Education, Legal, Social Action, Lay Organizations, Press, and the Executive Department, which coordinates all the activities of the Conference under the Administrative Board of Bishops. The founders described the N.C.W.C. as "the Church in the United States at work on matters of general import, under the direction of the Bishops." Its aim, they said, was to act as a guide and helper, its purpose being only to exercise "a moral influence." This is expressed in the motto of the Conference, "Faith and Service,"

and in the symbolism of the official seal, the cross and circle. The cross symbolizes Christ and "the faith that is the spring and inspiration of doing for others according to justice and love"; the circle symbolizes an all-embracing service, "equally dispensing its labor, its enfolding strength to all without end."

The careful planning of the Bishops who shaped the Conference is evident in the fact that in the course of years only two new departments have been added: the Department of Catholic Action Study, established in 1933 to carry on research in Catholic Action projects, and the Youth Department, established in 1940, to assist in the development of Catholic youth organizations and activities throughout the nation.

There are at present seventeen Archbishops and Bishops of the Administrative Board, representing all the great sectional areas of the country. The Board meets semi-annually, in the spring and fall of the year, to discuss problems and map programs for the ensuing months. At their annual meeting the Bishops of the United States name special committees to supervise and plan special activities. These special Bishops' committees today are as follows:

The Committee on the American Board of Catholic Missions; the Committee on the Propagation of the Faith; the Committee on the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; the Committee on Seminaries; the Committee on Motion Pictures; the Committee on Indecent Literature, supervising activities of the National Organization for Decent Literature; the Committee on the Pope's Peace Points, and the Committee on War Emergency and Relief. These committees function through appropriate sub-committees and work in conjunction with the Administrative Board of Bishops.

The Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee was organized shortly after the outbreak of the war in Europe to assist war victims in Poland and other devastated regions. The great expansion of relief work in 1943 caused the Bishops to set up another agency specifically charged with the social and recreational aid of numerous distressed peoples. This was organized as the War Relief Services-N.C.W.C., a participating agency of the National War Fund.

The far-flung works of charity of War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. are aiding millions of victims of the war in forty-four countries of the world. War Relief Services has assisted the Catholic people of the nation in providing food, clothing and shelter to their destitute brethren in a war-ravaged world. The organization also provides recreational, educational, vocational and other personal welfare services in the work of rehabilitating victims of the war and rebuilding a shattered civilization.

Funds contributed by the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee through the Catholic people of the nation have financed a program of religious aid for war victims and for men and women in the U. S. armed forces, including the distribution of more than 1,000,000 missals, rosaries, sacred music and other devotional aids.

Another vital wartime activity organized by the Administrative Board is the National Catholic Community Service. Working as a member agency of the USO, composed of national welfare groups, the N.C.C.S. operates more than 500 clubs for servicemen and women, and carries on overseas activities through affiliates such as the Catholic clubs for Allied forces in Rome, Naples and Cairo. The N.C.C.S. is also a participating agency of the National War Fund.

Meanwhile, the regularly established departments of the Conference are carrying on enlarged programs under the centralizing direction of the N.C.W.C. Executive Department, which coordinates all the multiple and far-flung activities of the various N.C.W.C. units. The Department is directed by the General Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary of the Conference, who are appointed annually by the Administrative Board of Bishops.

In addition to the work of the war, welfare and relief agencies of the Conference, the Executive Department supervises the activities of the eight departments and seven bureaus, which are handled by a regular staff of ninety-four employes, ten of whom are priests.

The Press Department has developed the *N.C.W.C. News Service,* which occupies a place in Catholic journalism similar to that of the Associated Press and other international news-gathering agencies in the field of secular journalism. The News Service provides approximately 50,000 words a week of national and international news, a feature service comprising articles of interest to all members of the household, and a picture service illustrating the Catholic events of the world. It also syndicates special articles by leading Catholic authors on subjects of timely interest. The News Service serves the Catholic Press in the United States and in thirty-two other countries of the world. The Press Department also sponsors a Spanish-language news service, *Noticias Catolicas,* which counts some of the largest dailies in Central and South America among its subscribers.

The Social Action Department is occupied with the dissemination of Christian principles in the fields of industrial relations, international peace and rural life. The Family Life Bureau, one of the

activities of the Department, conducts annual national conferences on family life and makes available programs and research projects for the furtherance of Christian family life. The Social Action Department sponsors conferences on industrial problems which bring together employers and workers in the discussion of common problems; schools of social action for the clergy, and lectures, articles, and radio addresses on Catholic social action. The Catholic Association for International Peace, developed by the Social Action Department, is devoted to the study and application of Christian principles in the development of international relations.

In the matter of formulating a just and enduring peace, which is the principal problem confronting the nations of the world today, the Bishops' Committee on the Pope's Peace Points of the N.C.W.C., established to promote study and dissemination of the Christian principles underlying a just social order, both national and international, has published two notable volumes: "Principles for Peace," presenting the pronouncements of the Popes from Leo XIII to Pius XII, inclusive, on the subject of peace, and "A World to Reconstruct," by Professor Guido Gonella, Italian jurist and journalist who served on the staff of the Vatican newspaper, *Osservatore Romano*, and who is a leading authority on Papal doctrine concerning peace.

A clearing house of information on legislation enacted or pending in Congress and in State Legislatures and affecting the Church and Christian life is provided by the N.C.W.C. Legal Department. This Department analyzes legislation and court decisions concerning matters of social and religious interest and provides information and advice to Catholic groups and institutions. It presents the Catholic point of view on legislation and represents Catholic charitable and welfare institutions before administrative agencies of government.

Religious, social and recreational programs, vocational guidance and cultural activities of Catholic youth groups throughout the nation are assisted by the N.C.W.C. Youth Department.

Most of the dioceses throughout the country have appointed diocesan youth directors whose organizations are affiliated with the National Catholic Youth Council, which is sponsored by the Department. The College and University Sections of the Council include as affiliates the Newman Club Federation, embracing one hundred twenty-five Catholic clubs at secular educational institutions, and the National Federation of Catholic College Students, embracing a total of one hundred three student organizations. The Department issues the *Catholic Youth Directory* and sponsors the Catholic Student Program Service.

An information and research service in the field of Catholic education is provided by the N.C.W.C. Education Department. This Department, in cooperation with the Executive and Legal Departments, has worked to safeguard the interests of Catholic education by opposing Federal and State legislation inimical to the welfare of Catholic schools. The Department prepares a biennial statistical survey of Catholic schools, conducts a Teachers' Registration Section and a library, and provides informational services.

Thousands of immigrants have been aided by the Bureau of Immigration, which assists refugees and other persons coming into or leaving the United States. This bureau functions directly under the Executive Department. It facilitates matters of passports and visas, aids worthy detained immigrants, persons facing deportation, alien visitors requesting change of status or extension of temporary stay, and furthers reunion of families separated through immigration difficulties. The bureau maintains branch offices in New York, on Ellis Island and on the Mexican border.

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, which has its National Center at N.C.W.C. headquarters, carries on an extensive program of religious education and has developed the nation-wide religious vacation school movement. The chief objectives of the Confraternity are to extend knowledge and practice of the Faith among Catholics outside the Catholic school system, through religious vacation schools, instruction classes during the school year whether on "release time" or otherwise, and through religious discussion clubs. It promotes religious discussion clubs for adults and religious education of children by parents in the home. Each diocese carries out its own Confraternity program as the Bishop may direct. Diocesan directors of the Confraternity have been appointed in one hundred ten dioceses in the United States. The National Center acts as a service agency for the diocesan officers.

The work of the N.C.W.C. in strengthening and unifying Catholic activity is nowhere more manifest than in the work of the Department of Lay Organizations, which embraces the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women. The Men's and the Women's Councils serve as channels between Catholic lay organizations and the various departments of the N.C.W.C., as well as carrying on specific Catholic activities of their own. Offering affiliation to all Catholic lay organizations having ecclesiastical approval, the Councils maintain connections with more than 7,500 organizations of

(*Turn to page* 22)

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING THE CHURCH

Spurious Equality

ON July 12 the House Committee on the Judiciary favorably reported a joint resolution proposing an "equal rights" amendment to the Constitution. The proposed amendment, which must be adopted by a two-thirds majority in both the House and the Senate before submission to the State legislatures for ratification, reads as follows:

> "That equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress and the several States shall have power, within their respective jurisdictions, to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.
>
> "This amendment shall take effect three years after the date of ratification."

The Report contained three separate Minority Views written by Representatives Celler, Hobbs, and Russell, respectively. Representatives Thomas J. Lane, Martin Gorski, Michael A. Feighan and John Gwynne concurred in the Minority Views of Hon. Emanuel Celler, who stressed the confusion that the amendment would effect. Representative Celler stated that: "The deceptive phrase of 'equal rights' for women has earned for the amendment many adherents who do not see that such an amendment does not confer equal rights. It brings the dubious gift of confusion and will boomerang in the form of unequal rights."

This is not alarmist prediction, for any attempt to confer equal rights upon men and women with their correlative equal duties constitutes an invitation to legal chaos, for the subjects of the amendment have basic differences which society must recognize. As Mr. Justice Frankfurter, while professor of Law at Harvard University so ably maintained at a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on February 8, 1938, "The legal position of women cannot be stated in a single simple formula, because her life cannot be expressed in a single simple relation. Women's legal status necessarily involves complicated formulation because a woman occupies many relations."

These different relations spring naturally and spontaneously from the physical and psychological characteristics that differentiate the sexes—characteristics which condition legislation designed to safeguard the rights of women. Thus, every state has laws on its books which discriminate, but discriminate in favor of women that they may be adequately protected. Commenting on this type of legislation, Representative Sam Hobbs, in his Minority Views, stated that the proposed amendment "would wipe out the righteous preferences now granted by many state laws."

The term "righteous preferences" is a happily chosen one for it serves to emphasize the present legal recognition of the difference in the sexes. The adoption of the amendment would no doubt result in the loss of these preferences and the retention of mere paper rights, for the legislation of the states establishing these legal preferences would be shorn of its constitutional basis. Legislation protecting the health and recognizing the dignity of women would be swept aside. The long and hard struggle to secure conditions of labor consistent with the physical and psychological makeup of women would be nullified. The public policy of the states with respect to the protection of women would bow to the power of the Federal Government. As Representative Hobbs observed: "The power here sought to be taken from the states is to regulate the home, the marriage relation, the welfare of children and parents, property rights of wives, widows and orphans, and the health, happiness and morals of most of the sovereign people."

To what extent these relationships would be affected would depend upon the decisions of the Federal Courts. However, the fact that any portion of the jurisdiction of the states over these relations will be transferred to the Federal Government gives cause for concern. Thus, William F. Montavon, director of the Legal Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in his work on the "Equal Rights Amendment" stated as follows: "The fact remains that it has not been found possible to draft an equal rights amendment which would not require the abdication by the State of an essential part of its sovereign power to perform the general duties and powers of government which under the Constitution are reserved to the State and its people."

This indeed is an important consideration. Our system of government is constantly becoming more centralized. Economic necessity has dictated considerable centralization of activities in our Federal Government. There is no such neces-

sity, however, for further depriving the states of their sovereign powers by the adoption of an "equal rights amendment." True, the Report of the Committee is characterized by frequent reference to the necessity of placing women on a plane of economic equality. Granted that there is a necessity for improving the economic bargaining power of women, still the problem is not so great that the states cannot meet it. As a matter of fact, the states of Michigan, Washington, Illinois, Montana and New York have recently enacted laws providing for equal pay for equal work. Legislative trends indicate that many more states will soon adopt such legislation—legislation which is much more desirable than an equal rights amendment for it is an addition to the preferential status designed for the protection of women in industry. State legislation, therefore, gives women a greater economic bargaining power than they could hope to secure under the contemplated amendment. Forced to compete with men without the benefit of the equalizing factor of this protective legislation they would in effect, have an unenforceable right as they would not be in the same bargaining position.

The third Minority View, that of Representative Samuel M. Russell, deals with the effect of the proposed amendment on the family. Thus he stated: "I am convinced it will be to the detriment of the family, home, community, and to the women themselves."

This view reflects the best in Catholic teaching. For instance, Pope Pius XI in the Encyclical on Marriage observed that: "The false liberty and unnatural equality with the husband is to the detriment of the woman herself for if the woman descends from her truly regal throne to which she has been raised within the walls of the home by means of the Gospel, she will soon be reduced to the old state of slavery and become as among the pagans the mere instrument of man. . . . This equality of rights which is so much exaggerated and distorted, must indeed be recognized in those rights which belong to the dignity of the human soul and which are proper in the marriage contract and inseparately bound up with wedlock. In such things undoubtedly both parties enjoy the same rights and are bound by the same obligations; in other things there must be a certain inequality and due accommodation which is demanded by the good of the family and the right ordering and unity and stability of home life."

Observe the emphasis on the dignity of woman. Notice how it conforms with and is an expression of God-given rights. This is equality in the true sense of the word. Laws passed in harmony with it would of necessity redound to the benefit of women. Laws adopted on the basis of the spurious "equality" of the proposed amendment would violate the inalienable rights of woman to be treated in accordance with her God-given dignity.—*George E. Reed.*

CATHOLICISM IN THE U. S. DISCUSSED BY DR. PATTEE

IN RECENT weeks a new book entitled "Catholicism in the United States," written in Spanish by Dr. Richard Pattee, member of the staff of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, and published by *Editorial JUS* of Mexica, has called forth very favorable comment, especially in the Latin-American press.

Writing in *Novedades*, Dr. Gabriel Mendez Plancarte described the author as being without doubt "one of the current North American writers who most profoundly know our Hispano-American countries and who have come to be more widely—and deservedly—known among them." His book, Dr. Plancarte said, is not "a mere stack of dead data and dates."

Dr. Mendez Plancarte notes also that Dr. Pattee has visited "almost all of our America," has lectured in English, French or Spanish "from Canada to Chile, and from the Antilles to universities in the West of the United States," and has occupied the chair of history at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. It was during the period of his lectures at Mexico's highest institution of learning that "Catholicism in the United States" was written.

"After having devoted a good portion of his activity to divulging the authentic cultural values of Canada as well as Ecuador, Mexico and other Hispano-American countries," the reviewer continues, "it was quite fitting that Pattee devote some of his indefatigable effort towards making known in the Hispanic nations of our continent the genuine history of his country and the magnificent accomplishments of Catholicism in the United States. . . . But do not think for a moment that it is a book of 'propaganda' in the stupid, proselytizing and sectarian sense that has been given to this word. It is clear that Pattee admires and exalts the very extensive and glorious work developed by Catholicism in the United States in the strictly religious field and also in education, welfare, science, literature and social action; but always his narration is strictly in keeping with historic truth, and he is not afraid to expound with equal frankness and veracity the human failures or defects that at times have been mingled in this complex and vast historic development."

FUN WITH A FUTURE

An Adult's Eye View of Youth Surveying a Brave New World

WHEN girls meet during vacation, new friendships will be formed and a good time had. It is also a matter of trite record that youth is a season of idealism and enthusiasm for broad horizons and new ideas. Nevertheless, I was not quite prepared for the incandescent effect produced by the combination at the International Pattern Institute in Washington, June 17-23. That Institute, which was sponsored by the International Relations Commission of the National Federation of Catholic College Students with the cooperation of the N.C.W.C. Social Action Department and the Catholic Association for International Peace, brought to the National Catholic School of Social Service thirty juniors from fifteen Catholic colleges of the East and Middle West for a study of international organization and world problems in the light of Catholic philosophy.

Their study was supplemented by contacts with personalities of competence and experience in the international field, visits to centers of governmental and inter-governmental action, and recreation calculated to fit into, and not distract from, the mood of the week. The whole was sharpened by their own receptivity and seemingly insatiable appetite for discussion.

In order that the students might see the whole new order of international developments steadily and see them whole, the concept of world unity and the mission of the Church was explained at the beginning by Rev. Thomas O'Melia of the Maryknoll Missions. He reminded them that all proposals for international cooperation go back to primary principles of Catholic philosophy, and that each Catholic in his own environment must be a focus for bringing all things to Christ.

With time out to share in the National Capital's greeting to General Eisenhower, the Institute adjourned to the National Catholic Welfare Conference, where the work of the Bishops and of the different departments of the Conference touching on international relations was revealed by department directors. Later, Mrs. Robert H. Mahony, chairman of the N.C.C.W. Committee on International Relations, explained how interest in international cooperation could receive expression and development through parish and community organization. Rev. R. A. McGowan, assistant director, N.C.W.C. Social Action Department, described the great strength of the United States, both moral and material, in relation to the rest of the world and the consequent responsibility of American Catholics.

The aims and results of the San Francisco Conference in terms of Catholic teaching were discussed and followed by a visit to the Senate, where the Charter completed at San Francisco must be ratified.

Rev. George G. Higgins of the N.C.W.C. Social Action Department showed the relation of national economic prosperity to international cooperation, prior to a discussion of international economic agencies by Charles P. O'Donnell of the U. S. State Department and Harry Read of the C.I.O. A visit to the International Labor Office gave vitality to the discussion.

The philosophy of law, and something of the history of international law was presented by the Rev. Wilfrid Parsons, S.J., before the Hon. Charles Fahy, solicitor general of the United States, explained the World Court as proposed by the San Francisco Charter.

The inter-American system in relation to the San Francisco Charter was detailed by Dr. Manuel Canjes, chief of the Juridical Division of the Pan American Union, following a visit to that institution. The Rev. James A. Magner of the Catholic University stressed the vast missionary problems of the Church in Latin America and the need of concern with social conditions, excellent preparation for the talk by the Rev. Lucian Lauermann, N.C.S.S.S. director, on social work as a vocation.

These activities, plus an international student night provided by Pax Romana, a visit to Mount Vernon, a tea for speakers and distinguished guests, and various private enterprises left the students tired, but inspired, as their own program the closing day abundantly indicated. A quickened sense of responsibility for participation in public and international life, a fuller appreciation of the encompassing and integrating nature of Catholicism, an increased world consciousness, and a resolution to share the experience of the Institute with their colleagues next year were the larger effects of this heartening experiment in twig bending.—*Catherine Schaefer.*

Month by Month

N.C.W.C. Mourns Staff Members Lost in Bomber Crash at New York Office

IN THE COURSE of its twenty-five years of existence, the National Catholic Welfare Conference has lost by death a number of its staff, some young, some older, and each has been a heartfelt, severe loss. Again, with sudden, tragic circumstances, death has claimed additional members of the staff—the eleven victims of the crash of an Army bomber into the New York headquarters office of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C., on July 28. Four other members of the staff received treatment in hospitals. The remaining personnel on duty when the bomber struck were treated for burns and shock.

Reports from persons who have visited the scene of the accident indicate that practically all records and papers of the organization have been destroyed.

Appalling indeed was the tragedy! Certainly Archbishop Spellman of New York has expressed the thoughts and feelings of all co-workers in N.C.W.C. in his statement made in connection with the Empire State Building disaster.

"Today," said Archbishop Spellman, "our city, still aching from the grief of war, suffered a new and terrifying sorrow when the Empire State Building was gored by an Army bomber. The gaping wound in the building is a stark symbol of the wound in the hearts of those bereaved beloved, unable, in many instances, even to identify their cherished dear ones.

"Welded one, today, in this our common grief, I pray God's mercy on the souls of the dead and His consolations for the anguished. I am grateful that priests were present to bless the dead and the dying, but my heart breaks and my soul weeps as I pray for the living who must bear the shock of this sharp, stunning sorrow.

"I pray that God's Mercy and His consolations may guide the stark terror and quell the agonizing pain in the hearts of those whose human hopes lie dead within the charred and broken bodies of their loved ones. With personal grief, I mourn the loss of so many devoted workers in War Relief Services. Completely they dedicated, consecrated, and sacrifived their lives to humanity, and deeply and prayerfully with their own loved ones, I mourn them. . . ."

A Solemn Pontifical Mass of Requiem for the repose of the souls of the dead was offered in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York on August 1 by Archbishop Spellman. His Excellency also offered a Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday, July 29, before a congregation of 1,000. Special prayers for the dead and injured were said at all Masses in every church of the Archdiocese.

A message of sympathy from His Holiness Pope Pius XII, expressing his condolence to the families of the bereaved and to the director of War Relief Services, imparted his personal apostolic blessing and asked God to console and strengthen them all "in this hour of extreme sorrow and trial."

The names of religious, welfare, social work, relief and other agencies who sent representatives to the Requiem Mass at St. Patrick's would form a veritable litany. Army and civilian authorities were also present.

A Requiem Mass, offered for the deceased at St. Augustine's Church in Washington, D. C., on August 1, by Rev. R. A. McGowan, of N.C.W.C., was attended by those of the staffs of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and the National Catholic Community Service who could not be in New York for the Mass at St. Patrick's on the same day.

Informed at his office in Washington of the disaster, the Very Reverend Monsignor Howard J. Carroll, general secretary of the N.C.W.C., went at once to New York, to the scene of the accident, visited the victims in hospitals, and offered all assistance and condolence to relatives of those who had perished. Monsignor Carroll offered Mass on Sunday for the dead and injured.

Only seventeen of the staff of thirty-five were in the offices of War Relief Services when the crash occurred; and of these the latest report shows ten dead, one missing, and six injured. The casualties are listed as follows:

Identified Dead: Paul Dearing, public relations director; Joseph Fountain, supervisor of special request section, prisoner of war department; Jean Sozzi, secretary to Mr. Dearing; Mrs. Margaret Mullens, bookkeeper; Mary Lou Taylor, secretary in prisoner of war department; Patricia O'Connor, secretary in prisoner of war department; John Aloysius Judge, field supervisor; Anne Gerlach, secretary in prisoner of war department; Mary Kedzierska, supervisor of Polish projects; Maureen Maguire, secretary in prisoner of war department.

Missing: Mrs. Lucille Bath, telephone operator.

Injured: Theresa Fortier, secretary to Miss Kedzierska; Charlotte Deegan, secretary to the Rev. Dr. Edward A. Swanstrom, assistant executive director of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C.; Ann Regan, administrative assistant; Catherine O'Connor, secretary to the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick A. O'Boyle, executive director of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C.; Theresa Scarpelli, stenographer; Ellen Lowe, secretary to Edward M. O'Connor, executive assistant.

Monsignor O'Boyle and Father Swanstrom arrived at the building ten minutes after the disaster, and through special arrangements reached the scene of the accident. Crawling through flames and smoke, stumbling over fire hoses, they administered the Last Rites of the Church to each victim within reach. In this work they were assisted by Reverend Francis J. McGirr and the Reverend Francis J. Campbell, of Holy Innocents Church, eye-witnesses of the crash.

"We are all deeply shocked and grieved by the tragedy that struck our organiaztion on Saturday morning," said Msgr. O'Boyle and Father Swanstrom in a joint statement given to the *N.C.W.C. News Service*. "We are especially mindful of the members of our staff who lost their lives,

CATHOLIC ACTION—Monthly Publication of t

"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general cooperation."
—From the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

N. C. W. C. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Executive Department; Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, vice chairman of the Administrative Board and treasurer; Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, secretary of the Administrative Board; Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati, episcopal chairman of the Department of Education; Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, episcopal chairman of the Legal Department; Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco, episcopal chairman of the Department of Catholic Action Study; Most Rev. John Gregory Murray, Archbishop of St. Paul, episcopal chairman of the Press Department; Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne, episcopal chair-

and our prayers go up to Almighty God that their souls may rest in peace.

"We are also mindful of the people who, though injured and shocked, were graciously spared through God's mercy, for which we are deeply thankful. Our sympathy goes out to the bereaved relatives and friends. We owe it to those who have lost their lives, as we owe it to the war-stricken people they served, to continue the work of relief and mercy with a sense of even greater and more serious responsibility.

"We are deeply grateful for the hundreds of messages of sympathy and encouragement and the offers of assistance that have come to us."

Among the messages of understanding sympathy received by Msgr. O'Boyle was that of the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, expressing the heartfelt condolence of the Board of Trustees of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C., of which he is chairman.

"In the name of the Board of Trustees of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C.," Archbishop Mooney said, "I ask you to express our heartfelt condolence to the families of the members of our staff who met their death in the appalling accident that destroyed our offices in the Empire State Building Saturday morning.

"We join in the prayers of the bereaved for their loved ones, and we beg God to give strength and comfort to their grief-stricken families and friends. I shall offer Mass for each one of these faithful co-workers who were so suddenly taken by death while themselves engaged in a task of world-wide mercy."

Bishops' Committee Sponsors Digest of Dr. Gonella's Book "A World to Reconstruct"

Under the sponsorship of the Bishops' Committee on the Pope's Peace Plan, a digest in popular form of Dr. Guido Gonella's scholarly and authoritative book *A World to Reconstruct* has been prepared and is now available to schools, study clubs, forums and to all who are "interested in trying to make an enlightened contribution to the post war world reconstruction." The digest, made by the Dominican Sisters of Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., includes a comprehensive index, chapter summaries, questions and a study club outline. The Thomas More Book Shop in Chicago is in charge of distribution.

New Pamphlet on United Nations Charter Made Available by C.A.I.P.

"The United Nations Charter" is the title of a pamphlet report just issued by the Post War World Committee of the Catholic Association for International Peace, which urges work by the American people, on entering the United Nations Organization, for the effective operation and improvement of the Charter.

Declaring that a world organization is an imperative necessity and that there can be no effective world organization without membership of the United States, the report cites that on a number of counts the Charter is unsatisfactory, but "so, too, was our own Constitution when it was written." It continues: "Many amendments, a war between the States, and changes in interpretation have marked the history of the United States Constitution. Amendments will surely mark its future. So, too, new interpretations and amendments will be natural to the Charter, which will be the Constitution of the United Nations—if the United Nations endures—and it must endure. The world must organize itself, however loosely and imperfectly at the beginning, for peace and justice.

"The Charter written through the joint efforts of fifty nations at San Francisco must be adopted because it has great strength in itself, because it can be amended and because there is no peaceful alternative available. However, it is not an automatic instrument of peace or of justice any more than is our own Constitution. The people of the United States, and the peoples of the world must breathe life into the words of this document. By its very limitations, the Charter presents to them an unparalleled opportunity and challenge for the effective exercise of responsive, informed, articulate public opinion."

The report calls attention to the fact that, although major power and responsibility for the maintenance of peace still rests with the Big Powers, the numerous amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals incorporated in the Charter at San Francisco practically all increase the participation of the forty-five nations, other than the Great Powers, in the proposed United Nations Organization.

The successes of the San Francisco Conference are enumerated under the following heads: (1) Justice as a Purpose and Principle. (2) Individual Rights. (3) International Law. (4) The International Court of Justice. (5) The General Assembly. (6) The Social and Economic Council. (7) Policy Regarding Dependent Territories.

The shortcomings of the Conference listed by the Report deal mainly with the retention of the Veto by the Big Powers and the failure to provide for adequate limitation on national sovereignty with respect to the good of the world community. The field for future effort to improve the Charter includes: (1) The recognition of the principle that no state is absolutely or unqualifiedly sovereign, that the moral law applies to the relations of states as it does to the relations of men; (2) The elegation to the General Assembly of power to legislate international law, if not upon all phases of international relations; (3) The establishment of compulsory jurisdiction in the International Court of Justice and the implementation of its decisions; (4) Limitations of the veto power exercised by the Great Powers; (5) Clarification of the relation of regional organization to the World Organization.

TIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

nan of the Department of Lay Organizations; Most Rev. Karl . Alter, Bishop of Toledo, episcopal chairman of the Department f Social Action; and the Most Rev. James H. Ryan, Bishop of Omaha, episcopal chairman of the Department of Youth.

Very Rev. Msgr. Howard J. Carroll, S.T.D.
General Secretary

Rev. Paul F. Tanner
Assistant General Secretary

Rev. James Lawler
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NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC WOMEN

War's Children—C. D. A. Junior Program—International Relations —In Tribute to N. C. C. W.

"WAR'S CHILDREN AND THEIR WOE"

By Catherine Jarboe

A CHILD cries in the night, and a woman answers the cry. It may be a mother who bends tenderly over her little one; it may be one of that great band mothering the world in the name of Christ—the Religious of the Catholic Church—but the child's need is heard and answered.

Tonight, in Europe and Asia, little children are crying. It is a dark night indeed for these children, many of whom are orphaned and homeless, many weak and ill, all of them cold and hungry. Their needs are pressing—winter is fast approaching, their clothes are in rags, their shoes broken—if, indeed, they have any! What would they not give for that coat outgrown by junior, that warm night dress that you could make from an old one of grandmother's, those dresses and undergarments that could so easily be cut from that material which lies packed away in the attic?

The Urgent Need

Surely the cry of these children will reach across the miles and, once again, our Catholic women's organizations will hear and answer. Just now, War Relief Services-N.C.W.C., the Catholic agency for war relief, makes a special appeal through the National Council of Catholic Women to women's organizations throughout the country to make clothes for these children that another winter may not find them shivering in the cold, suffering the added strain inadequate clothing puts on undernourished little bodies. The appeal is also for the Sisters working in these war-stricken countries. The story is told in the special war relief edition of the N.C.C.W. *Monthly Message to Affiliated Organizations* for July, reprints of which are available to all from N.C.C.W. headquarters. Write for copies and distribute them to every group of Catholic women. When we turn the pages of this publication, two great dark eyes look at us out of a little face, the face of a year-old Dutch baby whose pitifully wasted body seems scarcely able to support its little head. Picture after picture tells the story of war's devastation—of men, women, and little children who died last winter, not from guns and bombs, but from starvation and cold. There is a picture of a family in The Netherlands living in a chickenhouse; of a family in Italy, sitting on the cold stones of a courtyard, homeless, as many millions are in that war-devastated, sunburned wasteland; of naked little refugee Polish children in Iran. They survived their trek of thousands of miles from their homeland in the north. Not so, many others who died on the way or perished after having reached safety but before friendly hands could save them. In Pahlevi, a town in Iran, 3,000 white crosses mark the little graves of Polish children who died because help reached them too late.

Charity Reaches Out

Unfortunately, it is too late for many, but it is not too late for millions who are now receiving help through War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. Its far-flung program of charity brings to the stricken people of every land where war has taken its dreadful toll, the charity of Christ which regards not creed, political faith, or color, but sees only a suffering human being. And it is the privilege of American Catholics to contribute in large measure to the success of this work. Our money has made possible the gigantic task of furnishing clothing, special foods, household necessities, blankets, medicines, in France, Italy, Poland, Belgium, Holland, England, Egypt, Malta, the Philippines—in short, in every country devastated by the war. Our Catholic agency for war relief is bending every effort to alleviate suffering and give these people an opportunity to rebuild their lives. War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. is partially supporting 283 clinics which are operating throughout free China and which last year treated 3,750,000 persons. In Switzerland, student-internees and refugees are being cared for by War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. France's 7,000 Sisters of Charity are acting as voluntary aides to War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. in dispensing welfare supplies furnished by War Relief Services to French war victims. Their 800 charitable institutions are centers for war relief activities, and mobile canteens enable the Sisters to feed the children in rural sections.

Through the National War Fund, of which War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. is a participating

gency, we have sent our dollars to serve the cause of Christian charity. We have given our manpower and our possessions that this great project may be carried out to the fullest extent, but we have not yet reached the goal. As long as there are homeless, cold, hungry, suffering people in these lands in the wake of war we cannot stop. Already our Catholic people have contributed to the United War Fund campaigns, to the United Nations Clothing Campaign, to special clothing drives for Italy, for Poland, for the Philippines—and they have done well. War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. now makes this special appeal to the National Council of Catholic Women to furnish needed clothing for Sisters and children. These must be provided for the ragged—many times nearly naked—children in Europe, in China, and the Philippines, and for the Sisters, who unmindful of their own worn garments and broken shoes, sometimes, even bare feet, go about their work of mercy for these little ones.

Catholic women's organizations are asked to realize the urgency of this appeal. There has been no vacation in the lives of these helpless children; there has been no vacation for the Sisters who are working day and night ministering to their needs, there should be no vacation from the work of women's organizations here in providing these urgently needed garments.

What Can Be Done?

War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. has mapped out a six-point program in which every woman's organization can find a way to help.

1. Out of adult's worn underclothing and remnants of donated materials, sewing groups should start immediately to make *underwear and night garments* for the little children of Europe.
2. From worn outer garments of adults, coats, suits, dresses can be cut and sewn into *outer garments for boys and girls.*
3. Groups working for children can make additional *layettes* for the new-born babies of Europe.
4. Alumnae and other women's groups may collect and donate underclothes, night garments and simple shoes *for Sisters* working in Europe, China, the Philippines.
5. Babies' diapers are non-existant in many areas and newspapers have to be used. Serviceable diapers can be made from old sheets, shirts, blouses.
6. Enclose *safety pins, needles and thread* with packages of clothes.

Finished garments should be packed and shipped by the sponsoring group, not by individuals, to the Warehouse, War Relief Services-N.C.W.C., 599 11th Avenue, New York City. Just before shipment, a letter should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, N.C.C.W., 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington 5, D. C., stating the list of articles being sent.

Councils of Catholic Women and National Organizations affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women have responded generously in the past. Assurances are reaching headquarters that again N.C.C.W. affiliates will come through with flying colors. Let it be the proud boast of *your* organization that its cooperation was 100 per cent!

IN TRIBUTE TO N.C.C.W.

Affiliates and friends of N.C.C.W. continue to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the National Council. One outstanding celebration was that of the Peoria D.C.C.W., where five of the six deaneries compiled Silver Jubilee Booklets in recognition of the spiritual growth and development of N.C.C.W. during the past two and a half decades. The booklets record the efforts and achievements of these deanery councils in the past year.

From the St. Augustine D.C.C.W. came word that the Board had "moved to extend congratulations and felicitations to N.C.C.W. upon completion of 25 years of service in the field of Catholic Action." Their letter stated: "We of the St. Augustine Council feel privileged to be a part of this wonderful organization and glory in its notable achievements. It is our hope and prayer that the magnificent work in the past will be more than surpassed in the days to come." One of the St. Augustine Council affiliates, the Society of the Little Flower, Coral Gables, also wrote: "Proud to be just a small part of the great National Council of Catholic Women."

From Grand Rapids, too, came a letter of congratulation from Miss Mary E. Briske, president, Manistee District Council of the Grand Rapids D.C.C.W.

Silver candlesticks and silver tapers in observance of the 25th birthday of the National Council of Catholic Women graced the tables at the luncheon meeting of the Board of Directors of the Dubuque Diocesan Council.

Words of commendation greeted N.C.C.W. in the May, 1945, issue of the *Journal of Religious Instruction,* where in an article entitled "A Silver Anniversary," the editor extended congratulations and said: "In the ranks of their membership have been found Catholic women of all walks in life, united in a common Catholic idealism of the highest order. They have had the good fortune to choose outstanding leaders, but the Catholic work in which they engage demands the cooperation of even the humblest member. No member has failed

to derive edification from the Council's attention to the details of Catholic living. May their work continue, and may their tribe increase!"

C.D.A. JUNIOR PROGRAM

An outstanding development of the program of the Catholic Daughters of America is its Junior program which was established in February, 1926, and has spread to 70 dioceses and 32 States and Puerto Rico in its nearly twenty years of organization.

Today, with troops of Chinese, Mexican, Spanish and Indian Juniors, it includes in its membership girls of all nationalities and races from 12 to 18 years of age in the Juniors and from 10 to 12 years of age in the Juniorettes, established in 1943. It has been recognized and approved by the Episcopal Chairman of the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Its national Chaplain is the Rev. Robert Brown, associate director of the C.Y.O. of the Archdiocese of New York.

The entire program of the Juniors is conducted along parish lines with emphasis upon the importance of holding troop meetings in the homes. A Senior Counsellor is in charge of each troop.

In the biennial report for Juniors just received by Miss Mary C. Duffy, supreme regent, from the National Director, Miss Beatrice M. Hoffman, the most "phenomenal" growth, Miss Hoffman reports, is to be seen in the spiritual activities of the Juniors, with more than 5;000 having made a retreat under their own sponsorship during the past two years, 1,500 of whom made a three-day retreat; with 66 Juniors having entered the religious life; and 200 having trained for the catechist program which they are now carrying on under priest directors.

The Juniors have lived up to their motto of "Being Useful" by training for the nurse aide and dietitian aide services they are now rendering in their local hospitals; by serving in various wartime capacities for the Red Cross, U.S.O., N.C.C.S., and Civilian Defense; by helping the labor shortage in their parishes in being responsible for regular cleaning of the church; by clothing girls of their own age for First Communion and making layettes; by setting up Catholic book shelves in public libraries; by setting up, out of their own funds, nurseries to care for children on Sundays and Holy Days, while the parents assist at Mass. Over and above all this, they have given more than $40,000 to charitable, church, mission, and priest educational funds.

Honor tests which include Religion, Art, Literature, Music, Civics, Physical Fitness, Nature Study and Home Making, are an important part of the Junior program.

With "to love God, to serve others, to live nobly," as their standards, the Juniors are dedicated to the Sacred Heart and renew their act of consecration at their monthly Holy Hour. Miss Hoffman believes that the Juniors are helped and encouraged to personal sanctification through this consecration and through spiritual activities wisely planned.

WAR RELIEF COOPERATION UNDERWAY

The special war relief work for Catholic women's organizations was inaugurated with the July issue of the N.C.C.W. *Monthly Message,* a war relief edition. This will be the collecting and the making of clothes (especially underwear) for children, and the collecting or donating of simple black shoes and needed garments for Sisters of Europe, the Philippines, and China.

Letters from Mrs. Thomas G. Garrison, president, N.C.C.W., urging intensive cooperation in this work, have gone to all Board members, diocesan council presidents and spiritual moderators, and presidents of affiliated national organizations.

Reprints of this War Relief Edition are available from N.C.C.W. headquarters and leaders are asked to get this message to *every* Catholic woman. Write for copies today and distribute them at your meetings and wherever a group of women will sew for these needy children and Sisters. Already pledges of cooperation have been received from the Omaha, Springfield (Ill.), Winona, Galveston, Amarillo, Oklahoma City-Tulsa, La Crosse, Savannah-Atlanta, and Rochester diocesan councils; the Minnesota State Council, the Sodality of Our Lady; and the following national organizations: Catholic Daughters of America, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, National Council of Catholic Nurses, Women's Catholic Order of Foresters, Daughters of Isabella, National Alliance of Czech Catholics, and the Slovak Catholic Federation of America.

Catholic women's organizations are urged to full cooperation. Make this work another signal success of your organization.

Sodality of Our Lady: Summer Schools of Catholic Action under the auspices of the Sodality of Our Lady are being held this year at New York, August 20-25, and Chicago, August 27-September 1, for those within the immediate radius of these cities.

R.I.P.

Mrs. Wallace C. Benham, past Board member from the Province of Cincinnati and first vice president of N.C.C.W. from 1927 to 1931, died in Cleveland, July 6. The prayers of N.C.C.W. affiliates are requested in appreciation of her loyal work in behalf of the Council and the National Catholic School of Social Service.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAM PLANNED

THE Senate Committee on Foreign Relations quickly and favorably reported the United Nations Charter to the Senate for action, and the consensus at this writing seems to be that an overwhelming majority of the Senate is in favor of adoption.

The effectiveness of the requests for changes in the wording of the Charter made by the religious groups of the country was shown in two articles prepared for the Catholic press by Rev. E. A. Conway, S.J., Social Action Department, N.C.-W.C. A comparison of these recommendations and the corresponding provisions since written into the United Nations Charter is given in a folder, "The San Francisco Charter: Goals and Achievements," copies of which are being sent to all N.C.C.W. affiliates.

However, adoption of the Charter is but an initial step toward more harmonious and complete international cooperation. The real test will come when the machinery of the international organization is put into motion. Public understanding will be necessary, public support essential. With this realization in mind, the N.C.C.W. Committee on International Relations, meeting in Washington June 25, laid plans for the coming year. The program will be based on the United Nations Charter, but will include a study of a number of the international organizations which existed before, or were set up during, the war and which will be valuable auxiliaries of the world organization.

Mrs. Robert H. Mahoney, Hartford, is chairman of the national Committee on International Relations; Miss Helen M. Ganey, Chicago, vice chairman; Miss Anne Sarachon Hooley, member, Bureau, International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues; Miss Catherine Schaefer, consultant; and Miss Irma Piepho, secretary.

It is the hope of the National Committee that local, diocesan and national groups will continue the splendid work of last year. Addresses, panels, radio talks, discussion groups—all helped to make better known the Papal Peace Program, the Pattern for Peace, Goals for San Francisco, and the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals. In addition to those previously mentioned in CATHOLIC ACTION, credit must be given to the Diocesan Councils of Great Falls, Newark, Santa Fe, and Youngstown, and the N.C.S.S.S. Alumnae Association for the very fine work they did.

Among the outstanding programs of the year was a radio series sponsored by the Akron Deanery Council of Catholic Women, under the leadership of Mrs. A. J. Bender, president. Over a period of twelve weeks, seven broadcasts were given in which officers, committee chairmen and members of the Council took part in round table discussions with the Rev. Theodore D. Obendorfer, author of the excellent scripts. The participants emphasized the part the individual citizen can play in winning the peace. With examples drawn from every-day life, the discussion showed how the application of religious principles should affect the actions of states no less than of individuals, if peace with justice is to prevail. Through comparisons with our own early history or through references to our Constitution, the problems of sovereignty, cartels, colonial possessions and the role of a world court were explained. The responsibility of a powerful nation to use its power to serve, not dominate, was brought out. Each program began with a resume of the previous discussion and ended with the "Catholic Hour" Prayer for Peace.

Another program of note was that of the Mansfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women. Headed by Mrs. Roger H. Bolin, president, an intensive campaign was carried on to make better known the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals. Speakers were trained; time secured on programs of study groups, mothers' clubs, and fraternal groups. Through bulletins and telephone calls, additional people were reached. In one month, addresses were made at seventeen meetings, 414 members reached, and twelve organizations reported sending letters to delegates to the San Francisco Conference, suggesting improvements in the Charter.

What was done to secure changes in the United Nations Charter can be done to make the world organization a living, working, reality. It depends upon the active interest of each individual, and that individuals can be reached and interested is shown through these programs. How many times will they be duplicated in the coming year?

WITH OUR NATIONALS

Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association: Mrs. Elizabeth S. Mahony has been appointed Supreme Trustee of the Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association to fill the vacancy on the Board caused by the death of Mrs. Annie M. Malley. Mrs. Mahony has been active in L.C.B.A. work for more than 25 years and is at present first vice president of the Boston Chapter.

National Council of Catholic Nurses: The fifth anniversary of the founding of the National Council of Catholic Nurses was observed in Boston by the Mission Church Nurses' Guild, which consists of nurses from 42 Greater Boston hospitals and Army and Navy centers. Another fifth birthday celebration was that of the Catholic Nurses' League of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, held at the Little Sisters of the Poor in Pittsburgh with 175 old people as guests.

NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC MEN

Specific Jobs to Do—Shut-In —Radio Schedule

YOUR PART

SIX specific jobs in the following fields were recommended to all affiliates of the National Council at its last General Meeting: Organization; Catholic Action; Radio; Labor Relations; N.O.D.L.; and the Narberth Movement. A special committee reported on each topic, offering definite suggestions for the accomplishment of each task.

Naturally many of our affiliates have already been working on some of these items. We urge the others to undertake at least one or two of them and report to national headquarters what they are doing.

Organization: The sense of the report was to recognize the fact that the basic strength of the National Council lies in well organized and active parish organizations of men. It was recommended that Diocesan Councils make every effort to have at least one active organization of men in every parish.

The report of the Committee on Organization reads in part as follows:

"1. The ideal Parish Council of Men toward which we are striving is the one contemplated in the Manual of Instructions of the Council of Men. 2. The Committee recognizes that special problems exist in every parish, depending on size, racial and local conditions. 3. Parishes can roughly be divided into three groups: (a) rural, (b) industrial, (c) national (e.g., Polish, Mexican, French, etc.).

"In *rural* parishes, if there is a functioning organization of Catholic men, build a Parish Council of Catholic Men around it. If there is none, strive to form an organization of monthly communicants, around which a Parish Council may finally be built. The Committee recommends that the program of the Catholic Rural Life Conference, 3801 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, be studied and applied.

"In *industrial* parishes, presuming there are several organizations of men already in existence, they may be formed into a parish council.

"In *national* parishes, if needed, provide material explaining the national, diocesan and parish programs in the language of the parishioners."

The Manual referred to by the report is the "Manual of Instruction for the Council of Men" published by the National Council of Catholic Men, copies of which may be obtained from national headquarters at one dollar each.

Among our affiliates there are many parishes in which the pastor has very generously, and in a spirit of cooperation, simply affiliated his men with the National Council without reference to any parish organization. To them we earnestly recommend the establishment of a men's organization of monthly communicants, e.g., the Holy Name Society, if none now exists, and an intensification of the work of any which may already exist. We recommend that they examine the topics which follow and encourage the men to undertake one or more of them.

The chairman of the Committee on Parish and Diocesan Organization was Paul Froeschl of Kansas City, Mo., past president of the Kansas City Diocesan Council of Catholic Men.

Catholic Action: A basic idea in the National Council of Catholic Men is that of Catholic Action. When men understand that Catholic Action is a vocation, and by it they are called, offi-

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(Department of Lay Organizations, National Catholic Welfare Conference)

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cially, to help the Hierarchy in the apostolic work of saving souls, they are much more apt to devote some of their time to it. To teach men the principles of Catholic Action is, according to the Holy Father, primarily the task of the priest.

"It is necessary then that the clergy should seek out chosen men, as many as possible, to work side by side with them and cast everywhere the fruitful seed of religion. . . . It is your chief duty, Venerable Brethren, and that of your clergy, to seek diligently, to select prudently, and to train fittingly these lay apostles" (*Pius XI*, 1931).

In order to give the busy parish priest some convenient tools, N.C.C.M. has compiled from official sources the "Pastor's Outline for Training Laymen Leaders." Its use is recommended by the Catholic Action Committee.

The "Pastor's Outline" consists of eight lessons to be given a few carefully selected men. In the foreword the Pastor is urged to "select those who are already the natural leaders in your parish. It would be asking miracles to expect men who have no natural qualities of leadership to recast themselves in middle or late life and be accepted by the others as leaders. So do not select men only because of their piety."

The titles of the eight lessons are: 1. What is Catholic Action? 2. The Parish Council of Catholic Men. 3. The National Council of Catholic Men. 4. The National Catholic Welfare Conference. 5. The Bishop, the Clergy and the Council of Men. 6. The Duty of the Layman toward the Council of Men. 7. Practical works for the Parish. 8. The Parish Board of Directors in Action.

A companion booklet is the "Manual of Instructions for the Council of Men," intended as a guide for the use of the men trained by the Pastor.

The chairman of the Catholic Action Committee was Emmet A. Blaes, member of N.C.C.M. from Wichita, Kans.

Radio: The Radio Committee stated: "The Committee feels that the CATHOLIC HOUR and the HOUR OF FAITH are programs which are far above other religious programs in quality, and well deserve the best efforts of all affiliates in securing a wider listening audience."

Toward this end it recommended that Diocesan Councils survey the eligible radio stations in the Diocese and make a strong effort to get those not now carrying either of the HOURS to do so. We would like to apply this same recommendation to our individual parish affiliates. If the CATHOLIC HOUR and the HOUR OF FAITH are not on the air in your locality we urge you to find out why. The CATHOLIC HOUR is broadcast over the N.B.C. (National Broadcasting Company) network and any radio station which subscribes to this network can in almost all cases, carry the CATHOLIC HOUR if it wants to. The same applies to American Broadcasting Company network stations. Until recently the A.B.C. was known as the "Blue" Network.

The CATHOLIC HOUR originates at 6 P.M., E.W.T., every Sunday, and the HOUR OF FAITH at 11:30 A.M., E.W.T., every Sunday. If the local station says it has a program on at the time in question, suggest that they make a transcription of the program and put it on at some other time.

Are you asking the local station for some special favor when you request that it carry either of the HOURS? The answer is very emphatically, no! the station has only a license to use the air waves as long as it uses them to serve the "public interest, convenience, and necessity." This whole subject is treated in an expert and authoritative way in an article entitled "Radio Apostolate," by Edward J. Heffron, on page 18 of the June issue of CATHOLIC ACTION.

We urge you very strongly to familiarize yourself with this subject and discuss the matter with your pastor with a view toward calling upon the station manager. The matter ought to be presented to him in a very friendly, but at the same time, a very firm way. If you can't locate your June issue of CATHOLIC ACTION, order one from us.

The Radio Committee made two very specific recommendations to assist in securing more listeners for the CATHOLIC HOUR and the HOUR OF FAITH. In the first place they urged the inauguration of short, periodical publicity campaigns for either or both HOURS by paid newspaper display ads; show cards to be displayed in store windows; etc. In one or two dioceses this has already been done and the results are very gratifying. In one case a station which had been carrying the CATHOLIC HOUR since its inception 15 years ago stated that because of the low Hooper rating, indicating a small listening audience, they felt obliged to discontinue it on the grounds that there were not a sufficient number of listeners to justify it. The Diocesan Council in question immediately launched a campaign of display newspaper advertising consisting of weekly ads in the two principal city papers. The ads were one column wide by 6 inches long and carried a picture of the current speaker on the CATHOLIC HOUR. In addition, with the cooperation of store owners, artistically printed show cards about 16 x 20 inches were displayed in many choice locations in the principal business districts. The show cards, like the display ads, carried a picture of the current speaker, the call letters of the station carrying the CATHOLIC HOUR, place on dial, time it might be heard, etc.

We urge every one of our affiliates to under-

take some sort of publicity campaign of this character to secure more listeners for either of the HOURS. It is not only a meritorious apostolic work but from a more worldly standpoint it is necessary to keep the stations willing and anxious to continue carrying the program.

The second method for securing more listeners suggested by the Radio Committee was the use of radio circulars supplied by national headquarters. These circulars are small folders intended to be mailed individually to non-Catholics. They announce the speakers, and wherever possible, the subjects of their addresses, together with other important information concerning the HOURS. Where they are used in quantities of 500 or more, the name and address of the local Diocesan Council is imprinted on the back together with a list of the stations, place on dial, and the time when either the CATHOLIC HOUR or the HOUR OF FAITH may be heard. We supply the circulars free of charge to our affiliates as one of our regular services. The expense of printing them is very considerable and they can be supplied free only when used by our affiliates for mailing direct to non-Catholics. The reason for this is that their cost is considered a justifiable expense only if they are used in this way. If affiliates want them for distribution at Holy Name meetings; during retreats; at the Church door; etc., they may be obtained for 1c each.

The chairman of the radio committee was Sam Liberto, past president of the San Antonio Archdiocesan Council of men.

N.O.D.L.: In December, 1938, the Bishops' Committee on Obscene Literature formed the National Organization for Decent Literature (N.O.D.L.) and drafted a program designed to effect uniformity and procedure in the various dioceses. On May 1, 1943, the National Council of Catholic Men was requested and authorized by the Bishops of the United States to assist the N.O.D.L. in the following ways:

1. Assigning periodicals to reviewers and centralizing in its office the reports received from them.
2. Receiving and reviewing reports submitted by reviewers and compiling therefrom and periodically revising the list of publications not approved because of failure to conform to the N.O.D.L. Code.
3. Conducting negotiations with publishers or their representatives concerning inclusion of their publications on the list or removal therefrom.
4. Reporting its conclusions and recommendations in respect to all of the foregoing matters to the chairman of the Episcopal Committee on Obscene Literature, or to such person or persons as he may designate to act for him.
5. Assisting the Episcopal Committee on Obscene Literature and the N.O.D.L. in such other ways as may be requested by the chairman of said Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the National Council of Catholic Men.

The N.O.D.L. has been able to do a great deal in the way of discouraging the publication of objectionable magazines. It has not been able, however, to do very much in discouraging sales at local newspaper stands, etc. This is where you come in, for you have the opportunity to undertake, with the approval of your pastor, a most important apostolic work by helping to rid your locality of filthy reading matter. N.C.C.M. cannot establish "units" or "branches" either of itself or of the N.O.D.L., for this purpose. The initiative must come from your bishops and your pastors and the local diocesan or parish N.O.D.L. must stand entirely on its own feet.

We urge you to give this your very best thought. More detailed information concerning the N.O.D.L., where to secure lists of objectionable publications, etc., may be found on page 18 of the "Manual of Instructions for the Council of Men." The chairman of the N.O.D.L. Committee was Steward Lynch, member of N.C.C.M. from Wilmington, Del.

Narberth Movement: The Narberth Movement is a phase of the apostolate of the printed word and consists of two distinct parts: The Narberth newspaper articles and the Narberth pamphlets.

The newspaper articles are short items of Catholic information containing about 200 words set up in newspaper form. Karl Rogers of Narberth, Pa., wrote the first articles 15 years ago and continued them monthly up to the time of his death in 1942. Since that time the series has been kept up by the Rev. Richard Ginder and national headquarters now has on hand a four-year supply. The articles are written in a light-hearted, interesting style, captivating and easy to read.

The plan is to request secular newspapers to publish one of the articles free of charge every week. One of the services of the N.C.C.M. is to supply the articles free of charge to its affiliates. We urge you very strongly to make use of this opportunity in the apostolate of the printed word and write for a description of the Narberth newspaper plan and samples of the articles. The National Council has gone to great expense to make this service available but it all amounts to nothing unless outlets in local secular newspapers are secured. And this is your part of the work.

The Narberth pamphlets are 3 x 5 inch folders containing the same matter as the newspaper ar-

ticles but printed in different form. They are intended for mailing direct to non-Catholics. As an affiliate of N.C.C.M. you are asked to get up a list of 100 or more non-Catholics in your own locality and mail Narberth pamphlets to them at the rate of one per month. National headquarters, as one of its regular services, offers to supply its affiliates free of charge with copy for the pamphlets. Your expense would be to have them printed and mailed individually to the non-Catholics on your list.

The Narberth Movement has been heartily endorsed by Bishops all over the United States for the past 15 years. It is one of the responsibilities of the National Council of Catholic Men to secure a wide use of the two plans and we urge you very strongly to assist us in this needed apostolic work.

Labor Relations: The special committee on Labor Relations suggested that our first and most important job in the field of Catholic Social Action is one of education; education in Catholic social principles both for ourselves and for those who come within the range of our influence. There can be no Catholic social apostolate until Catholic laymen themselves—workers, employers, farmers, and professional people — are firmly grounded in the teachings of the Papal encyclicals.

No easy task is recommended here to our affiliates but the need is a most serious one and should not be neglected just because the task is difficult. For the past fifty years the Popes have been urging study, prayer, and action in the field of labor relations and very little has actually been done. We strongly urge every one of our affiliates to do at least some part of this important work.

The chairman of the Labor Relations Committee was Julius C. Rupp, past president of the Gary Deanery Council of Catholic Men.

SHUT-IN

"I am a disabled registered nurse and this morning, as many times before, I heard the CATHOLIC HOUR. It is always something worthwhile, although I have not before been impelled to write. My father died before my birth. All of us worked and things came the hard way for me although I did get a public school education and later studied nursing.

"Since childhood I have been a member of a non-Catholic church; was a regular attendant, teaching classes and taking part in all church activities possible. I have read the St. James version of the Bible entirely through about five times, memorized portions of it and given much thought to its teaching according to my understanding of them. It could be that my difficulty lies in my lack of understanding of them for in all this time, and I am now getting old, there seems to have been something which I lack that my friends who are Catholics have.

"God seems to be so far away even when I pray most earnestly and the things I have wanted most have not been granted. Perhaps my approach is not in accordance with His will. I do not understand. Since I have been unable to work I have done much thinking, but I seem to get exactly nowhere although I have long hoped that at some time I would. Perhaps I lack faith. I do not know.

"I felt that the Rosary might help and a copy of Father Sheen's talk 'Our Lady.' So I would appreciate it if you will send me a rosary and a copy of the talk."

Many letters like this are received at headquarters. They prove the apostolic value of the radio.

This is why we ask all of our affiliates to undertake the task of mailing radio circulars to non-Catholics living in their localities. The circulars invite the reader to listen to the CATHOLIC HOUR and the HOUR OF FAITH. One of our regular services is to supply these circulars free of charge for this purpose. If you have not been making use of this opportunity, we urge you very strongly to write us for a sample and information on how to use them.

RADIO SCHEDULE

THE CATHOLIC HOUR (NBC Network)

Every Sunday, 6:00 p. m. EWT.

MR. G. HOWLAND SHAW

Aug. 5—Religion and Juvenile Delinquency.
Aug. 12—Community Organization.
Aug. 19—The Responsibility of the Laity.

MR. WILLIAM HARD

Aug. 26—Truth Shall Rise From the Earth. (Beginning a series of three talks.)

Music: Choristers of St. Philip Neri Church, The Bronx, New York, under the direction of Mr. Fancis Zavaglia.

THE HOUR OF FAITH (ABC Network)

Every Sunday, 11:30 a. m. EWT.

During the month of August a series of talks will be delivered by the Rev. Thomas E. O'Connell, pastor of St. Paul's Church, Richmond, Va.

Music: Instrumental ensemble and male quartette under the direction of Paul Creston.

N.C.W.C.: EXPRESSION OF OUR UNIFIED FAITH (*Continued from page 8*)

men and women—national, diocesan and local. The Councils do not in any way control the activities of affiliated societies, which remain entirely autonomous, but they do form a means of enabling them to join with all other Catholic organizations in a coordinated program of making better known the religious and social teachings of the Church and in exerting the beneficient influence of Christian principles in the upbuilding of individual and social life in the nation.

The National Council of Catholic Men produces the Catholic Hour and the Hour of Faith, nation-wide weekly radio programs, in cooperation with the National Broadcasting Company and the American Broadcasting Company, respectively. The effectiveness of these programs is attested by the audience response of thousands of letters from Catholic and non-Catholic listeners. The Men's Council also sponsors the Narberth Movement, disseminating Catholic truth through the publication of articles in secular newspapers and by direct mail, and maintains a Catholic Evidence Bureau and a Radio Bureau.

The National Council of Catholic Women, in addition to its work of federating Catholic women's organizations, has for twenty-five years maintained the National Catholic School of Social Service in Washington, D. C., and conducts an adult education program by means of study clubs, conferences and institutes. During the war years the Women's Council has been concerned largely with assisting affiliated societies in patriotic activities, which have included cooperating with the National Catholic Community Service, the Chaplains' Aid, the Red Cross and various government agencies. Numerous citations have been received showing the value of volunteer efforts of N.C.W.C. Councils. The National Council also was active in the clothing collection campaigns for Italian relief and United Nations Relief and in promoting war relief sewing groups to make garments in cooperation with War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. for the clothing project of the Philippine War Relief of the United States. Currently the Women's Council, at the request of War Relief Services-N.C.W.C., is making a national appeal to all organizations of Catholic women to cooperate in supplying clothing for destitute children and nuns in war-ravaged lands.

The varied activities of the N.C.W.C. are set forth each month in CATHOLIC ACTION, monthly publication of the Conference. The Publications Office handles hundreds of pamphlets and leaflets prepared by the different departments of the Conference and dealing with virtually every field of Catholic interest—encyclicals, education, labor, peace, citizenship, the family, immigration, rural life, Catholic radio addresses, study outlines, etc. The Business Office renders to the various departments of the Conference purchasing, promotion and distribution services.

An important task undertaken by the Conference during the war is publication of *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, official monthly through which the Vatican promulgates ecclesiastical legislation to the entire Catholic world, for distribution to Bishops, Chancery offices and heads of Catholic educational and religious institutions throughout the Americas. This work was undertaken at the request of the Holy See because of difficulties arising out of the war. The *Acta* published by the Conference goes to forty-five States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, and to thirty-seven foreign countries.

On the basis of this record of service through the years it is safe to say that the National Catholic Welfare Conference is an institution of benefit to every Catholic in the United States and to the nation as a whole, its work touching the lives of all and enriching with Christian leaven and fellowship the life of the nation. In the words of the late Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Burke, C.S.P., first General Secretary of the N.C.W.C. and one of the pioneer leaders in its founding: "There is reason for our unity, there is justification for our common action. . . . By the very spirit of our Faith, realized in intelligence, realized in spiritual love, we must express our active unity for the welfare not only of the Church but for all of mankind, for our country and for our homes."

CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED CATHOLIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

August, 1945

20–25—SUMMER SCHOOL OF CATHOLIC ACTION, Fordham University, New York, N. Y.
27–Sept. 1—SUMMER SCHOOL OF CATHOLIC ACTION, Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

October, 1945

8–9—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS, Spokane, Wash.

November, 1945

6–7—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS, Portland, Oreg.

For various reasons the following conventions, some previously announced, have been given up: National Congress, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; National Catholic Rural Life Conference; Catholic Hospital Association of the U. S. and Canada; National Catholic Evidence Conference.

THE BOOKSHELF

National Liturgical Week 1944 (The Liturgical Conference, Chicago, 1945, Pp. ix and 173, $1.50).

The printed proceedings of the National Liturgical Week held at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, in December, 1944. Its thirty-odd papers on all phases of the liturgy are highly recommended to anyone who would catch the spirit of the liturgical movement as it is developing in the United States. Beginners and experts alike will be grateful for the accompanying bibliography.

Moral Theology, by Rev. Heribert Jone, O.F.M. Cap. (The Newman Bookshop, Westminster, Maryland, pp. xx and 634, $3.00).

The average priest has a wide assortment of compendiums and manuals in moral theology. Why another one? Well, this one has the great advantage of having been adapted to the customs of the United States by the translator, Rev. Urban Adelman, O.F.M. Cap. A convenient guide for reviewing the highlights of moral theory and practice.

Dmitri, by Daniel Sargent (Longmans, Green & Co., New York, pp. 327, $3.50).

A fascinating biography of the famous Prince Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin who labored so successfully as a missioner in backwoods Pennsylvania in the early 19th century. A happy combination of an attractive literary style and sound historical scholarship.

Economic Stability in the Post-War World (League of Nations, Geneva, pp. 319).

Difficult, but rewarding, reading for any one with a serious interest in postwar economic reconstruction. The emphasis is on measures which might be employed, not merely to prevent economic depressions, but to secure economic stability and to achieve the fullest possible use of productive resources, once these resources have been effectively readapted to peacetime requirements.

Weapons for Peace, by Thomas P. Neill (Bruce, Milwaukee, pp. ix and 234, $2.50).

The "weapons for peace" are the moral principles which have been stressed so urgently in recent papal pronouncements on international order. Special emphasis is placed on the important Christmas messages of the present Pontiff. Mr. Neill, an historian by profession, discusses these principles against a broad background of modern history and thereby helps us to see them in perspective. He keeps hammering away at the responsibility of every individual and particularly of every Catholic to work much harder than we have ever worked in the past for the peace of Christ.

Economic Democracy and Private Enterprise, by Michael O'Shaughnessy (Harper and Brothers, pp. vii and 117, $2.00).

Perhaps the most specific attempt ever made to apply Pope Pius XI's Industries and Professions System in present-day American economic life. Mr. O'Shaughnessy discusses the relation of economic groups to the federal government against a broad background of business experience and serious study of Catholic social teaching. Highly recommended.

Public Medical Care, by Franz Goldmann, M.D. (Columbia University Press, New York, pp. vii and 226, $2.75).

Very useful as background material for a study of current proposals in the field of health insurance. Dr. Goldmann, associate professor of Public Health in the Yale School of Medicine, approaches the problem historically. His book is a carefully documented history of public medical care in the United States, with a final chapter appended on the necessity of planning for future medical care for all Americans.

N.C.W.C. REPRESENTED AT SANTIAGO CATHOLIC ACTION WEEK

DURING the past month the First Inter-American Catholic Action Week was held in Santiago, Chile, with the Apostolic Benediction of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. The delegates were welcomed by the Chilean President, Dr. Juan Antonio Rios, and the Holy Father's blessing was transmitted to the assembly by His Excellency the Most Rev. Maurilio Silvani, Papal Nuncio to Chile. The meeting was attended by delegates from Catholic Action groups in the United States, Canada, and most countries of Ibero-America.

The formal opening of the study sessions was preceded by the Mass of the Holy Ghost, offered in the Cathedral Chapel, with the Most Rev. Jose M. Caro, Archbishop of Santiago, pontificating.

The resolutions adopted and conclusions reached at the assembly will be submitted for the approval of the Holy See and the Hierarchy of each country represented. They deal with such matters as the encouragement of religious vocations, especially in those countries where the number of priests is wholly inadequate to the spiritual needs of the people; the propagation and defense of the Faith, including a study of the causes for the penetration of foreign ideologies; the protection of public morals against the disintegrating effects of indecent literature, motion pictures and radio, particularly by means of the extension of the Legion of Decency movement into all countries; and the labor apostolate among employers and employes to assure social justice through putting into practice the social teaching of the Church.

It was unanimously decided that another "Week" would be held within three years and, again, in the Chilean Capital.

The meeting went on record as commending *Noticias Catolicas*—the Spanish-language news service issued since 1941 by the Press Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference—and recommended that Catholic Action in each country collaborate in furthering an even wider use of this service.

The assembly also advocated the founding of an Inter-American Catholic Action Information Office to which periodical reports, pamphlets, books, clippings and statistics of special interest to the lay apostolate would be sent from each country of the western hemisphere.

The Rev. John J. Considine, Vicar General of Maryknoll and former editor of *Fides News Service*, attended the Catholic Action Week as official representative of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at Washington.

Correct Information Essential for Lasting Peace

"If public opinion is alert and informed, we can have a lasting peace and security" say the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of the United States in their *Statement on International Order.* A good way to put correct information in the hands of the public is to distribute the new N.C.W.C. publication in leaflet form which makes it possible to compare the recommendations of the Bishops with the charter of the international organization set up at San Francisco.

This leaflet includes the *Statement on International Order* as well as the *Statement on Organizing World Peace* issued by the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at its meeting in April, 1945. The statements are admirably suited to quantity distribution in the parish, in schools and by lay organizations.

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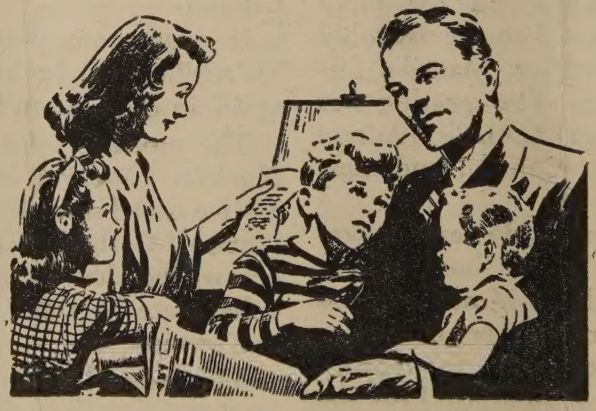
The Family Faces Forward represents an effort to meet the need for a book giving an interpretation of the moral law as it relates to the family today as well as information in the fields of maternity care, housing, an annual family wage, etc. It is hoped that this volume, comprising the contributions of 22 trained and experienced specialists, will serve as source book and guide for the movement — source book for local meetings as well as guide for individuals in study, discussion and varied activity. The book comprises 160 pages and is bound with illustrated paper cover.



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